

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 42

47TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2005

INTRODUCED BY

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A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THAT THE APPROPRIATE INTERIM LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
STUDY CREATION OF A STATE-OPERATED GROUP OF LOW-SECURITY
FACILITIES FOR THE INCARCERATION AND TREATMENT OF MULTIPLE DWI
OFFENDERS.

WHEREAS, in 1994, San Juan county decided to take
assertive action to fight its serious DWI problem, and the
result was a savings of over ninety-three million dollars
(\$93,000,000) in economic costs; and

WHEREAS, the county's DWI treatment program focuses on
first-time offenders and includes not only twenty-eight days of
incarceration in a minimum security facility but also a
multicomponent treatment program; and

WHEREAS, the treatment program's components focus on
alcohol use, abuse and dependence; psychological effects of

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1 alcohol abuse; goal setting; individual action plans for the
2 immediate future; family issues and alcohol; and work release
3 for employed offenders; and

4 WHEREAS, after the offenders are discharged, the program
5 monitors them for three to twelve months through weekly
6 meetings, monitoring of personal action plan progress, alcohol
7 breath tests, alcoholics anonymous meetings, job referrals and
8 vocational education; and

9 WHEREAS, as a result of this program, San Juan county
10 found that thirty percent of its first-time DWI offenders were
11 less likely to be rearrested in the five years following their
12 arrest than DWI offenders who did not participate in the
13 treatment program;

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
15 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico legislative council
16 direct an appropriate interim legislative committee to study
17 the details of the San Juan county DWI treatment program and
18 how that program might be replicated in other areas of the
19 state; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this study pay specific
21 attention to the effect and value of treatment during the
22 incarceration period and post-incarceration monitoring; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
24 transmitted to the New Mexico legislature council.

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